

Minutes of the Behavioral Health Coordinating Council

The Behavioral Health Coordinating Council Committee met on Friday, June 9, 2023, at 7:30 a.m. in Room 400 of the Government Center, 115 East Washington Street, Bloomington, IL.

Members Present: Chairman John McIntyre; Elizabeth Robb, Sonja Reece, McLean County Board of Health; Mark Jontry, Regional Office of Education; Judge Rebecca Foley; Susan Schafer, McLean County Board; Stephanie Barisch, Center for Youth and Family Solutions; Lisa Thompson, Project Oz Executive Director; David Taylor, Executive Director of United Way, Matt Mollenhauer, Chestnut Chief Clinical Officer, Kristin Adams, Country Financial,); Kevin McCarthy, Town of Normal, Clete Winkelmann The Baby Fold, Colleen O'Connor, NAMI Executive Director (Livingston, McLean County); David Sharar Chestnut Health Systems CEO, Brian Wipperman Marcfirst CEO, Esteban Lizano, State Farm, Kevin Richardson, PATH Director of Call Center Operations

Members Absent: Colleen Kannaday, Carle BroMenn; Lynn Fulton, OSF St. Joseph Medical Center, Jeremy Hayes Bloomington Housing Authority Executive Director, Donna Boelen, City of Bloomington, Joan Hartman, Center for Human Services Executive Director

Staff Present: Ms. Cassy Taylor, County Administrator; Kevin McCall Behavioral Health Coordinating Council Supervisor; Sarah Stalter Assistant Director of Behavioral Health Coordination, Alicia Moushon FUSE Behavioral Health Specialist, Amanda Hartley; Recording Secretary

Others Present: Cory Tello, Shannon Garlock, Amy Hopper, Selena Nolan, Jackie Mathias, Suzanne Montoya, Frank Beck, Elizabeth Johnston, Gloria Sugg

Chairman John McIntyre called the called to order at 7:34AM.

Chairman McIntyre presented the minutes from the March 10, 2023, meeting for approval.

Motion by Reece/Taylor to approve minutes from March 10, 2023, regular meeting

Motion Approved

Mr. McIntyre stated that we are losing Judge Robb as a member BHCC and thanked her for her service and everything she has done. Judge McFarland is replacing Judge Robb

Diane Schultz is another member we are losing. Diane Schultz retired from The Baby Fold and her replacement is Clete Winkelmann.

Judge Foley stated that every year the McLean County Bar Association celebrates Law Day. It has been their tradition to award a person or entity in community for their service to the community and this year's recipient was this group The Behavioral Health Coordinating Council. Judge Foley turned it over to Ms. Schafer and Ms. Schafer asked Chairman McIntyre and Kevin McCall to come up and she presented the plaque to them. This plaque is also going to be memorialized in a permanent plaque at the Law and Justice Center.

Mr. McIntyre thanked everyone in the judicial system as well as the BHCC members for their cooperation in what we are trying to get done.

Mr. McIntyre introduced Ms. Schafer to talk about NACo and the Leadership Network.

Ms. Schafer stated that she had a second peer exchange trip that her and Mr. McCall went on to Johnston County Kansas. Ms. Schafer spoke about the similarities and the differences between McLean County and Johnston County.

Ms. Schafer spoke about Johnston County's My Resource Connection (MyRC). MyRC is a means for facilitating care coordination for individuals. It allows service providers to share client data between various agencies, while highlighting trends and gaps in services. They also have a public facing component which is similar to what our PATH database is.

Johnston County just created a Frequent Familiar Faces workgroup that reports to the criminal justice authority. They have used Predictive Analysis data to try to do predictions as to who is going to need services so then they can do early interventions.

Douglas County has started to partner with Johnston County. They both have high suicide rates and high overdose rates. Douglas County also provides data for MyRC so they can utilize the same resources. They created and Treatment and Recovery Campus. It is a combination of urgent care, CSU, supportive housing/transitional housing. It is right across the street from the hospital so if someone goes to the ED with a behavioral health issue, they send them to the Treatment and Recovery Campus's Urgent Care. They serve all ages including youth. There is an APN on duty 24/7 that provides medications.

Douglas County passed a ¼ cent sales tax to pay for the Treatment Center that is paid for by the county. The Cottages funding came from National Housing Trust Funds Grant and Housing Authority Reserves. ARPA funds were used to pay for 121-unit supportive housing.

Ms. Schafer stated that they had just opened the Urgent Care four days prior to Mr. McCall and her visiting the campus so they didn't get to see how they ran the Urgent Care.

Ms. Schafer would like to set up a small work group to do some brainstorming and create concrete steps to move forward to what Johnston and Douglas -is doing. Susan is creating a list of questions to follow up for Douglas County and Johnston County.

Gloria Sugg from Center for Youth and Family Solutions spoke about the Care Coordination Program. She stated that they provide intensive case management to youth and families. She stated that they just started taking cases in February. They serve McLean, Livingston, and DeWitt counties.

Care Coordination is a voluntary program. They have to get families to engage and buy into their program, so they have phases. Their engagement phase is about building relationships and establishing trust and explaining the wrap around process. As they work with the families, they identify the providers that they are working with in the community and their goal is to collaborate and make it easier for the families to navigate all the different partners in the community members that they have. They have initial child and family team meetings with the providers and whoever is able to come, and they develop their treatment plan and work on goals. After the initial planning phase, they provide ongoing support, interventions, and assistance. Once they transition out of the program, they make sure that the families have a plan, and they are doing well.

They receive their referrals through Healthcare and Family Services pull scored CANS completed by community providers and send out a monthly list of new referrals. They reach out to the families once the list has been received and if they agree to Care Coordination then they are responsible for their CANS moving forward. The serve youth receiving Medicaid 0-21.

Current providers are encouraged to attend child and family team meeting to provide CANS updates and work as a team when serving families. The current providers will receive copies of the CANS and no longer are responsible for the CANS. They work with providers as a team to ensure updates are made and all treatment plan items are included.

Ms. Sugg explained how the community fits into the Care Coordination Program. They work with therapists and other mental health providers to ensure the CANS stays up to date and that the client's needs are being met via a treatment plan. They utilize funds to be able to access therapeutic supports such as art, music, and dance therapy. They utilize funds to access individual support services such as art class, sports classes, and other needs that support the treatment plan. They work to coordinate services for clients, finding community events, activities, and classes.

Care Coordination is part of the state's system of care process. The hope and the goal are to have other services in the community that the youth can access. Therapeutic mentoring, intensive homebased services, and therapeutic respite are programs that the state hopes communities will implement with their funding and support in order to support youth in the community.

Ms. Barisch also spoke about the Care Coordination Program. She reiterated that once a youth is enrolled in Pathways their Care Coordinators become responsible for the IMCANS for that youth. The state envisions the IMCANS to be a single tool for all clients that every provider working with a particular client is working off of that single plan. Once a youth becomes enrolled in Pathways, they are the only entity that can do the IMCANS, so they need partnership, collaboration, connection, and communication so that the IMCANS is comprehensive. Ms. Barisch stated how important it is for anyone that is serving these youth to be at the table. There is a specialty service code for providers to be able to bill for attendance at child and family teams.

Mr. Wiperman asked if they are looking for partnership to help with the IMCANS and the therapeutic pieces after.

Ms. Barisch stated that in terms of the IMCANS there is an occasional need to have a provider that they can refer someone to that would like to see if their eligible for Pathways but are currently seeing a provider that doesn't do the IMCANS. Ms. Barisch stated that what they really need are child and adolescent and youth and family serving entities that are willing to look at the therapeutic respite, therapeutic mentoring, and the intensive home-based service array. She stated that these are services that due to federal expectations around care coordination are not supposed to be provided by the care coordination entity.

Ms. Barisch stated that another piece that goes along with the Pathways Program that she feels is missing in our community and she feels is very important is the family peer professional piece. There is an actual service under the home and community-based service array for family peers. Our community doesn't have family peer providers.

Ms. Taylor stated that they have a comprehensive assessment team CAT grant that is nearing its completion. She asked how the Pathways Program could intersect with the work that was started with the CAT grant.

Ms. Barisch stated that they were doing care coordination with CAT before the state came out with Pathways. She stated that the majority of the youth referred to CAT have already been referred to Pathways and deemed eligible.

Mr. McCall gave an update on Behavioral Health Urgent Care. Kim Freyman and Joan Hartman were unable to attend the meeting to give the update. He stated that they are

finally getting to fully staffed. There have been some hiring issues in this community especially for case manager and crisis positions. They are hopeful to have the expansion of hours going from 9am-1am Monday thru Sunday. They are doing marketing and getting the word out that this is a community service that can be utilized by anyone over the age of 18 in McLean County.

Mark Jontry did an update on the Bridge Academy. He stated that the first year of the Bridge Academy by in large has been a very successful year. They have seen a lot of gains with the kids that they were able to serve. In total they had 33 students grade 7-12th come through at some point in the year. They finished the school year at 18. They serve kids from grades 7-12 and about of third of them had and IEP or a 504 plan. 2/3rds of them were students who didn't have any other identifying supports when they came to them. Some did end up with 504 plans as a result of their time there. A couple ended up getting identified for special education services. They had successful transitions that transferred back to their home school. They had a couple decide to do homeschool and work. A few transferred out of the area. They had a couple that ended up getting hospitalized. A couple students due to medical reasons ended up being homebound.

Mr. Jontry stated that their partnership with Marcfirst was very successful. He thanked Brian and his team for allowing them to get this started. He stated that being located at Marcfirst allowed them to provide some programming on sight. They leveraged a pediatric occupational therapist one time a week to meet with their students in a group setting to get their sensory base regulatory techniques down. One of their transition team specialists also came one time a week to observe and partner with the students who may be struggling with finding preferred seating and how to engage better in their academic work.

This summer they are partnering with the Illinois Art Station to provide enrichment. 10 of the 18 students are attending summer school. It is an elective and not a requirement.

To help the parents better support their kids they offered a couple news letters a month with tips and tricks to help support their students at home. They also did zooms with support group and a lot of the parents came back and said that it really helped them know that they were not alone in dealing with the issues they were having with their children.

Mr. Jontry stated that as they look to next year there are some changes that they are going to make. Their attendance rate did improve for all of their students. The average attendance rate with all of their students was 23% when they came to the program and at the end of the year it went up to 61%. They were as high as 80% mid way through the year but as they got into spring/late spring some of the attendance rates fell off for some of their kids. They are looking at some strategies on what they might do differently.

They had a lot of asks for 5th and 6th graders to be referred to the program. The program was not set up to serve 5th and 6th graders the first year. They are going to drop down and serve 6th graders next year. They are holding off on the 5th graders at this point. They had a minimum enrollment range of 60 days, and they are going to bump it up to 90 days. They currently have 18 kids to start the fall, but he knows that referrals will be rolling in once registration starts in August. He anticipates that they will have 22-25 students by the first day of school and probably be close to 30 halfway through the fall.

Mr. McIntyre stated that he and Ms. Taylor took a tour, and it is an interesting program and quite a facility. It is an innovative and progressive type of a program and the progress that they have made is amazing.

Mr. Jontry invited the group to take a tour. You can contact Mr. Jontry or Trisha if you would like to take a tour.

Mr. McCall thanked the speakers and presenters that spoke at today's meeting.

Mr. McCall stated that BHC has added 2 new staff member. He hired a grant writer/manager Tony Jones and a case manager for the FUSE program has been hired Alicia Moushon.

Mr. McCall stated that we will be making changes to some of BHC services. There will soon be an RFP issued for our tele psychiatry and prescriber services in effort to make some of our expenditures as low as possible. We will be looking into partner with some local organizations for the services. Another change will be that the Behavioral Health Forum will be at Illinois State University this year. Our Behavioral Health Forum Planning meetings are weekly so if anyone would like to be a part of them if you aren't already, please reach out to Sarah Stalter.

We currently have 5 Mental Health Action Workgroups going (Youth, Justice Involved, Access to Medical Services, Crisis, and Housing). Some of them have just kicked off and some are into their fourth or fifth meetings. Mr. McCall stated that he is looking forward to some actionable items that we can collaborate on. The last workgroup that we will be rolling out is the Collaboration and Coordination Workgroup. More details will be coming out soon. Mr. McCall is going to start sending out reoccurring invites for all of the meetings.

Ms. Taylor stated that we have lots of workgroups that will be pushing the ball forward with really strategic planning and action steps for the Mental Health Action Plan. Kevin has been very intentional in making this inclusive and including people on the BHCC as well as other community members that have expertise and wisdom in the areas where we are trying to create change.

Mr. McIntyre stated that the goal is implementation and the more that we can get started and off the ground. Having everybody contributing really helps.

Jackie Mathias gave an update on inmate services. She stated that a lot has changed since she started. Over the last several years they have made a lot of changes and expanded. When she began 20 hours of counseling was contracted through an outside agency. In 2016 they added their own full time licensed therapist. In 2021 they added a dedicated case manager reentry specialist and her entire job in coordinating linkage and care and providing resources. She has expanded how many people and how many agencies that they are able to work with. They added a second full time MSW counselor.

In July they are increasing their psychiatric hours from 5 hours to 20. Two 5-hour mornings will be for mental health for returning patients as well as new emergent patients. One of the days they are dedicating medication assisted recovery for their substance use disorder treatment.

In 2019 they opened their Special Needs Unit to address some of the population in integration for their individuals that are incarcerated with some behavioral health challenges that don't allow them to be in general population most of the time. Their program director has increased some of the things that she is providing for the overall mental health of everyone and the behavioral health of everyone. She has added different games and art activities.

They have increased their treatment of those who have been found unfit to stay on trial or not guilty by reason of insanity.

Coming up in July they are starting their MAR program. They have partnered with Chestnut for the MAR program to link them to further treatment in the community. Their case manager is training to be CADC certification eligible, so they are hoping to have a certified addictions counselor soon. Their MSW counselor is applying for their LSW, so she is hoping to have a second licensed person soon. They are working to have a more consistent therapy dog program and working with a community provider to see if they can start an art program as well.

Mr. McIntyre complimented the people that reached out to interact and work together and offer assistance to other organizations as we try to put some things together down the road.

Mr. McIntyre welcomed to the 2 new members Judge McFarland and Mr. Winkelman and thanked Judge Robb and Diane Schultz for all that they have done to contribute to the program.

Mr. McIntyre indicated the next regular meeting is Friday, September 8, 2023. He asked if there was any other business, hearing nothing he thanked everyone and adjourned the meeting at 8:35a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Amanda Hartley

Amanda Hartley
BHCC OSSII, Recording Secretary